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December 16, 2003

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 08203.0033
CUSTOMER NO. 22,852

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

New U.S. Patent Application
Title: **A SURGICAL DEVICE**
Inventors and Addresses:

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Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

1. Application - 35 pages, including 2 independent claims and 38 claims total.
2. Drawings - 68 sheets of drawings containing 106 figures.
3. Preliminary Amendment.

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This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f). Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the Declaration and paying the filing fee. **Please do not charge the filing fee to our Deposit Account without our authorization.**

Applicants claim the right to priority based on U.S. Provisional Application Nos. 60/433,603, filed on December 16, 2002, and 60/453,200, filed on March 11, 2003, respectively.

Please address all correspondence with respect to this application to:

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Please accord this application an application number and filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 

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EFC/FPD/sci
Enclosures